

Advisory Board of the Louisiana State Archives

MINUTES

May 12, 2022 | 1:00pm | Louisiana State Archives Gallery

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Board Members: Ann Boltin, Catherine Newsome, Doug Harrison, Brandon Abadie, Phyllis Perron, Faye Phillips,

Not present: Amy Patin, Linda Lightfoot, Nancy Landry

III. Approval of Minutes

The board approved the minutes from the meeting held on February 10, 2022. A motion was made by Doug Harrison to approve the minutes and Phyllis Perron seconded the motion. **Motion Passed**

IV. Order of Business

1. Updates from the Archives: Catherine Newsome

A. Lunch & Learn series with Dr. Ana Roeschley from LSU on February 23

On February 23, Dr. Ana Roeschley presented her research on participatory archives and community engagement during a Lunch and Learn series. There were over 30 attendees including staff from the Archives, Louisiana State University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and the East Baton Rouge Parish Library. Pizza was provided to the Archives staff as part of the quarterly enrichment allowance.

B. Spring Gala: Mystery of the Archives – March 6

RECAP AND INCLUDE new date for 2023; Phyllis suggested having the next gala start during the early evening hours so that the elder crowd can attend.

C. Book Talk on Jean Lafitte – April 6

The book talk featured an opening reception from 5-5:30pm and a book signing by authors Dr. Ashley Oliphant and Beth Yarborough. The authors presented their research which debunked the myths of Jean Lafitte's past and the facts surrounding his actual death.

D. History Harvest – June 3 and 4

As a companion to their upcoming exhibit: Voices and Votes, the Old State Capitol will partner with the Archives to host a History Harvest on June 3-4 from 10am – 3pm. The event will focus on collecting stories, scanning photos, and examining memorabilia for a future exhibit loan. The oral histories will feature topics related to the following: voting and registering to vote, campaigning for a candidate or running for office, attending a national political convention, participating in a recall, protest and march or sit in, becoming an American citizen, lobbying for the rights of marginalized citizens

E. Ebb & Flow Festival – April 9, 2022

The Archives Staff participated in the Ebb & Flow Festival held April 9-10 in Galvez Plaza in downtown Baton Rouge. The staff wore pirate costumes, shared special souvenirs and activities for children during the festival.

F. Selling the Great War: WWI Posters – May 23 through December 9

The next exhibit at the Archives, Selling the Great War: The Posters of WWI will open in two weeks. The exhibit will explore the nationwide graphic poster campaign to convince Americans to support the United States' involvement in World War I. The featured posters will include themes on: management of food consumption, purchasing bonds and stamps; women's roles in the war; enlistment and recruitment and national symbols.

G. America250 Commission

The U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission was established by Congress (P.L. 114-196) to inspire Americans to participate in the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. The commission is charged with orchestrating the largest and most inclusive anniversary observance in our nation's history.

The Commission will work with public and private entities across the country to make the America250 anniversary a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all Americans. Louisiana has a local commission that consists of the governor, lieutenant governor or designee, the Secretary of State or designee, Louisiana Association of museums etc.

2. Update from Friends of the Louisiana State Archives: Catherine Newsome for Linda Lightfoot
On July 13, the Friends of the Archives will host their annual business meeting at the Archives. A social will begin at 5:30pm with the meeting to follow at 6:30pm. The board has issued a call for new members/officers of whom will be elected during the annual meeting.

3. Other Business: Faye Phillips

A. Update on The Old Governor's Mansion

The Old Governor's Mansion is now managed by the Secretary of State's office.

B. Agencies of Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State's office.

Phyllis Perron suggested that a list of state agencies that are governed by the Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State's office.

C. Conservation and Preservation at the Archives

The board requested an updated on the current status of conservation and preservation practices at the Archives. Catherine Newsome provided a status updated on the conservator position being vacant despite it being it being posted twice with the inclusion of a national search. Ms. Newsome reiterated that a conservator role is a hard to fill position due to the specific set of skills it requires. She has spoken with several individuals at other archives in various states who share the same difficulty to fill the position of the conservator.

D. Brainstorm Initiatives

Catherine Newsome proposed a future agenda topic for the board at the next meeting. She suggested that the board consider specific initiatives for the Archives it may want to be implemented.

V. **Adjournment**

With no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Brandon Abadie and Faye Phillips seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

Meeting Adjourned at 1:57pm

The next meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2022.